

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**10:00 a.m. Holy Communion - April 16, 2023**  
**Rev Deb+ Vanover, Presider and Celebrant**  
**St. Martin's Episcopal Church**



**Prelude** (*Without music, use this time for quiet meditation.*)

**Opening Hymn #508** *“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People** *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**Collect for Purity:** *Presider Let us pray together*

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Gloria** (*said together*) BCP p. 356

**Presider** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**The Collect of the Day: Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**The First Lesson is a Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:14a,22-32**

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
Therefore, my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

- Reader The Word of the Lord;
- People **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 16** *Conserva me, Domine* (Say Together)

- <sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."**
- <sup>2</sup> All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- <sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.**
- <sup>4</sup> Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**
- <sup>5</sup> O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.**
- <sup>6</sup> My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**
- <sup>7</sup> I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.**
- <sup>8</sup> I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**
- <sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.**
- <sup>10</sup> For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.**
- <sup>11</sup> (2nd part of chant) You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

**The Second Lesson is a Reading from the First Letter of Peter 1:3-9**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**Gospeller**      **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 20:19-31**  
**People**            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said

this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

- *Gospeller*      The Gospel of the Lord.
- *People*            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

Rev Deb Vanover

*silence for reflection*

*The Apostles' Creed (let us say together)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth;  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the Virgin Mary.  
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried.  
 He descended to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again.  
 He ascended into heaven,  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**— [BCP p. 305 - Prayers] from **A New Zealand Prayerbook**

Christ, you are risen from the dead.  
 We are risen with you.  
 May our life never deny  
 this eternal life,  
 this peace and hope and joy.  
 Praise and glory to the God of life  
 who is stronger than all kinds of deaths. **Alleluia**

Christ, you are risen with the sun,  
 you Are Light in our darkness,

warmth in our cold.  
You are peace and hope and joy,  
for you went willingly to death.  
You turned defeat and failure into victory for all.  
You live eternally, and with you live the millions,  
living and dead, who trust in you.

May we who die in baptism die to sin  
rise again to new life  
and find our true place in your living body.  
May the new covenant sealed in your blood  
through us bring healing and reconciliation  
to this troubled world.

**Alleluia.** You are risen. We are risen with you.  
Praise and glory to the living God.

Father,  
we have seen with our eyes  
and touched with our hands  
the bread of life.  
Strengthen our faith  
that we may grow in love for you and for each other;  
through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

### **Intercessions and Thanksgivings**

#### **The Peace**

- *Presider*       The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- ***People***        ***And also with you.***

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **The Liturgy of the Table**

#### **The Offertory Sentence;**

Presider: Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering & sacrifice to God.

#### **Hymn of Presentation 'Doxology with Alleluias'** (sing to the tune of hymn 618)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***  
***Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!***  
***Praise him above ye heavenly hosts:***  
***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***  
***Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia!***

### **The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C BCP p. 367**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give god thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest; Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** (*let us sing together*)

**Our father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,**

*your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
are yours now and forever. Amen. Amen.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and be thankful.

The Body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*we pray together*)

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Prayer for St. Martin's** (*let us pray together*)

**God of Love, open our eyes and ears to perceive you at work in creation, the church, and our parish. Fill our hearts with your love that we may reach out in love to others. Stir up our imagination with your Holy Spirit that we may find new ways to live into life with you. Give us a vision of your mission that we may share your love and your spirit in all the places where we work and play and worship you. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.**

### **Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelling Mercies**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Easter Blessings**

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you this day and for ever. . **Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn #470**      *"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

**Dismissal**      Let us go into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**People**      **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!**

**Postlude**      (*Without music, use this time for quiet meditation.*)